

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An x-ray exposure method directing an x-ray generated from an x-ray source to illuminate through a mask a resist stacked on a substrate with a lower layer film posed therebetween,

5 said lower layer film containing an element C, and being composed in such a way that an element absorbing a largest amount of x-rays of elements contained in the lower layer film is the element C, and

when a film thickness of said lower layer film is  $t$  (nm), a density of said lower layer film is  $\rho$  (g/cm<sup>3</sup>), an absorption edge of an element absorbing a largest amount of x-rays of elements contained in said substrate is  $A_s$  (angstrom), a K-shell absorption edge of the element C is  $A_c$  (angstrom), and  
10 an absorption edge of an element absorbing a largest amount of x-rays of elements contained in said resist is  $A_r$  (angstrom), then a relation:

$0.5 \times A_r < 12.4 / ((t \times \rho / 46)^{(1/1.75)} + 12.4 / A_c) < A_r$  is satisfied, and

15 a relation:  $12.4 / ((t \times \rho / 46)^{(1/1.75)} + 12.4 / A_s) \leq \lambda \leq A_r$  is satisfied by an average wavelength  $\lambda$  (angstrom) of x-rays absorbed in said resist.

2. The x-ray exposure method according to claim 1, wherein the element absorbing a largest amount of x-rays of the elements contained in said resist is an element Cl, and a film thickness of said resist is no more than 100 nm.

3. The x-ray exposure method according to claim 2, wherein the film thickness of said resist is no more than 40 nm.